

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIPOL 01162 070841Z
ACTION SS-25

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-----124568 070929Z /21

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FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4722
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 1162

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, LY, US, PORG, UNGA
SUBJ: LIBYAN-US RELATIONS, FONSEC TURAYKI VISIT TO UN

1. LIBYAN UN REP KIKHYA SPOKE TO ME AT SOME LENGTH ON
LIBYAN-US RELATIONS DURING CALL AT EMBASSY LAST WEEK TO OBTAIN
VISAS FOR HIS SISTER AND MOTHER. KIKHYA CLAIMED TO BE QUITE
DISCOURAGED OVER FROZEN STATE OF RELATIONS BETWEEN US AND
LIBYA AS HE RECALLED HIS EFFORTS OVER PAST TWO YEARS TO FIND
A BREAK THROUGH. HE IS STILL DISAPPOINTED THAT HIS REQUEST
FOR MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER OR SECRETARY VANCE EARLY
THIS YEAR TO DELIVER A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM COL. QADHAFI WAS
NOT GRANTED. HE HOPED TO CONTINUE TO TRY TO IMPROVE LIBYAN-
US RELATIONS ON HIS RETURN TO NEW YORK BUT FELT PREVIOUS
REBUFFS MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO TAKE FURTHER INITIATIVES.
NEVERTHELESS, US/LIBYAN SHARED INTERESTS IN ECONOMIC,
COMMERCIAL AND CULTURAL FIELDS REQUIRED AN ONGOING
DIALOGUE.

2. KIKHYA EXPRESSED VIEW THAT IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY
USEFUL AND IMPORTANT FOR DR. TURAYKI TO TALK TO
SECRETARY VANCE DURING NEW YORK VISIT. HE FELT,
HOWEVER, THAT TURAYKI WOULD NOT MAKE REQUEST FOR
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APPOINTMENT FOR FEAR OF BEING REBUFFED. KIKHYA
REPEATED ASSERTION PREVIOUSLY MADE BY OTHER FONOFF
OFFICIALS THAT US ATTITUDE WAS PUSHING LIBYA AGAINST
ITS WILL TOWARD CLOSER RELATIONS WITH OTHER SUPERPOWER.
HE ASKED IF US INTERESTS WERE REALLY SERVED BY
MAINTAINING PRESENT POSTURE. IN RESPONSE TO MY
OBSERVATIONS ON LIBYAN SUPPORT FOR TERRORISM KIKHYA

SAID US BEING MISINFORMED BY UNFRIENDLY ARAB (READ EGYPT) BROTHERS. AS FOR MIDDLE EAST, LIBYA WHILE INSISTING ON JUSTICE FOR PALESTINIANS ALSO WANTED PEACE.

3. FROM THIS VANTAGE POINT IT WOULD APPEAR THAT TURAYKI'S PLANNED VISIT TO NEW YORK (LATE SEPT - EARLY OCT), WHICH WILL BE THE FIRST BY A LIBYAN MINISTER IN SOME YEARS, COULD BE OPPORTUNITY FOR HIGH LEVEL AND REASONABLY DISCRETE CONTACT WITH LIBYANS. THIS MIGHT BE OCCASION TO RESPOND TO LIBYAN SIGNALS OVER PAST YEAR AND TEST PROTESTATIONS OF GOOD WILL, I.E., TURAYKI'S RECENT MESSAGE TO SECRETARY VANCE (TRIPOLI 1026). IT ALSO COULD PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY TO SET FORTH AT HIGH LEVEL US VIEWS ON PROBLEMS IN RELATIONSHIP. I, OF COURSE, DID NOT MENTION THIS POSSIBILITY TO KIKHYA.
CARLE

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Message Attributes

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